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Palo Alto, CA 94303  
Feb. 26, 2000

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305)  
Food and Drug Administration  
5630 Fishers Lane, Rm. 1061  
Rockville, MD 20852

2757 '00 MAR -6 A9:54

Re: Docket No. 99D-5347

The precautionary measure to reduce the possible risk of transmission of zoonoses by blood and blood products from xenotransplantation products recipients and their close contacts.)

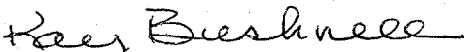
I wish to express my serious concerns about this proposed measure and to point out a common sense alternative.

The measure appears to be a very weak step that is inadequate when the pattern of diseases transmitted by animal parts is examined. The varied nature of transmission of diseases such as mad cow disease, some viruses, as well as the extended latency periods of many diseases make such measures seem ineffective.

Even a registry of xenotransplant recipients would be extremely difficult to manage and most likely ineffective due to the difficulty of tracking transplant patients over the years. The shortage of blood donors will only worsen as new information about the transmission of animal to human viruses becomes better known, and the pool of badly-needed qualified blood donors grows smaller.

Xenotransplantation is surely a case of sowing the wind and reaping the whirlwind. At this point in time, the only sensible alternative is to ban xenotransplantation now - and thus avoid the entire futile process of trying to contain the viruses and other problems that xenotransplantation will surely cause.

Sincerely,



Kay Bushnell

99D-5347

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